

## REMARKS

1 of the Office Action dated March 18, 2003.

for further prosecution in the above. Moreover, the applicants elect, with traverse, the specific FP, FL and SL peptides from serotype A12 of foot-and-mouth disease virus.

The restriction requirement should be withdrawn, at least with regard to the required election of specific peptides as such an election was not required in the parent application Serial No. 08/716,249. Specifically, the restriction requirement in the parent application dated March 5, 1997, (copy attached), did not require an election of specific peptides. See also, the attached Interview Summary dated March 13, 1997, from the parent application Serial No. 08/716,249. Also attached is a copy of the claims from the issued parent patent (U.S. Patent No. 6,455,244), wherein search and examination of multiple peptides did not present an undue burden for the Examiner. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the restriction requirement, at least with regard to the requirement for election of a specific peptide, are requested.

An early and favorable Action on the merits of the claimed invention is requested.

GUICHARD et al.  
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Respectfully submitted,

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